AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 - 6, and add new claims 7 – 16, as set forth in the listing of claims that follows, which will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 6. (Canceled)

7. (New) A pyromechanical securing element for mechanical connection of two components, said securing element comprising:

a generally cylindrical covering, including an expandable head part;

a pyrotechnic propellant charge disposed within said head part, which borders on an adapter; and

means disposed on a rear part of the covering distal said head part for registering with concentric through passages in adjacent first and second components to be interconnected, wherein the covering, at its head part, has frangible break notches running in longitudinal direction operable to tear open the covering in the head region upon ignition of the propellant charge to bend separated head part portions around the adapter, as a result of which the first component is firmly connected to the second component, wherein

- the adapter defines a groove extending about the outer periphery thereof,
- the covering defines, a radially projecting collar ~~is~~ arranged on the outer surface of the covering,
- the groove in the adapter is aligned with the collar of the covering, and
- at least one part of the collar is pressed into the groove to anchor the covering with the adapter.

8. (New) The securing element of claim 7, wherein the groove in the adapter and the collar of the covering are designed to be rotating on the particular outer periphery.

9. (New) The securing element of claim 7, wherein the outer surface of the covering has an at least 3-surface shape after pressing in.

10. (New) The securing element of claim 9, wherein the covering has a square shape with preferably beveled corners after pressing in.

11. (New) The securing element of claim 7, wherein the covering is formed from metal.

12. (New) The securing element of claim 7, wherein the adapter is substantially cylindrical.

13. (New) A pyromechanical securing element for mechanical interconnection of two components, said securing element comprising:

a generally cylindrical housing which is substantially closed at one end thereof to define an expandable head portion;

a generally cylindrical closure member slidably disposed within said housing, said closure member defining first and second axially spaced large diameter portions and an intermediate reduced diameter portion; and

a pyrotechnic propellant charge disposed in said head portion intermediate said closed end and said closure member,

wherein said housing defines a radially thickened collar portion which is axially aligned with the reduced diameter portion of said closure member and extends radially inwardly to effect a swedge-like engagement therebetween.

14. (New) The securing element according to claim 13, wherein said thickened collar portion defines a plurality of circumferentially arranged flats on the outer surface thereof.

15. (New) The securing element according to claim 13, further comprising notches formed in said head part to effect predetermined expansion thereof upon combustion of said propellant charge.

16. (New) The securing element according to claim 13, further comprising an axial spacing intermediate said closure member and said propellant charge.